

WASHINGTON TIMES

20 MAY 1983

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE B-3

Terry Dolan honored as 'Our kind of moderate'

By Tom Carter
WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF

Ed Rollins, President Reagan's assistant for political affairs, quipped that Terry Dolan called him on the phone recently and said: "Ed, if you were any kind of a man, you'd strap yourself with dynamite, walk into the West Wing (of the White House) and blow it up."

And Presidential assistant Richard Williams, recently appointed ambassador to the International Organizations in Vienna, lamented that the only way to have a conversation with "dedicated and committed conservatives" like his dinner companions was in a "one on one with the president."

Their comments reflected the mood of those conservatives who gathered Wednesday night at the Watergate Hotel to pay tribute to one of their own. Their laughter belied the seriousness of the \$125-a-plate dinner because they share a dedication to a cause, which to them is nothing less than the salvation of America.

Dolan was their champion for the evening — John Terrence "Terry" Dolan, chairman and co-founder of the National Conservative Political Action Committee (NCPAC), who was awarded an antique plaque quoting Teddy Roosevelt: "Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords."

The American Legal Foundation, the only conservative public interest group to deal solely with the media, sponsored the Dolan testimonial, honoring a "media victim who has had the courage and determination to overcome media obstacles to become a major force in politics in America," Dan Popeo, ALF chairman, told a reporter.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, the evening's host, said the most liberal act Dolan ever committed was that he once "campaigns for Richard Nixon."

"Terry Dolan is our kind of moderate," Hatch said.

Before the dinner, Dolan said he was not too disturbed by last week's FEC ruling that NCPAC could spend no more than \$1,000 in a 1984 Reagan campaign.

"Before that ruling affects us, first Reagan has to declare his candidacy and then accept federal

campaign funds," Dolan said. "In any event, I think the courts will turn the ruling around before it becomes important, which is August of 1984."

Political luminaries attending the dinner included former EPA director Ann Gorsuch Burford, who said she "missed being busy" and was spending her time "trying to be a good wife to Bob" — Robert Burford, director of the Bureau of Land Management. Hatch's introduction of the Burfords drew "bravos" and enthusiastic applause, extended when, loud enough for the room to hear, Robert Burford said, "If anyone can get to the right of Watt, I can."

Others were presidential assistant Ed Hickey; Larry Brady, assistant secretary of commerce; Richard Viguerie, the conservative direct mail king; the Conservative Majority's Paul Diterich; political consultants Robert Shortly and Roger Stone; Shearn Moody, director of the Moody National Bank; Max Hugel, whom Hatch said was assistant CIA director "when the CIA was doing what it should," and Lee Atwater, another presidential assistant.

Hatch called Dolan "a patriot, an exemplary leader and our friend. God bless him and keep him."

Sen. Steve Symms, R-Ida., thanked Dolan for the help NCPAC gave him in his campaign to "separate Church and state," a reference to Symms' 1980 defeat of liberal Democrat Frank Church.